the exotic weed seeds do not escape and get mixed up with our own produce, the distribution of imported wheat is being restricted to non-wheat growing areas.

Chief Ministers' meeting on Ration Quota

1851. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of Chief Ministers was held in September, 1987 for increase of ration quota for poor sections of society;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. A conference of Chief Ministers was held on 30 September, 1997 to review the implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The issue of increase of ration quota for families Below Poverty Line (BPL) was discussed as one of the items in the agenda.

(b) In the conference, a consensus emerged broadly that while these allocation for the BPL families may be increased, there should be no reduction in the allocation for the Above Poverty Line (APL) families. By and large, the view was also to limit the consumer subsidy on foodgrains distributed under PDS.

(c) It has been decided to maintain status quo for the present in view of the constraints of Stocks of foodgrains as well as the high level of subsidy involved.

FCI out of Foodgrains Trade in Punjab

1852. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:
DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Punjab has proposed to keep FCI out of foodgrains trade due to very slow paddy procurement by it in this season;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) No such proposal has been received from Punjab Government. Foodgrains are procured by the FCI and State procuring agencies jointly under price support scheme for Central Pool at Minimum Support Prices fixed by the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

दालों का आयात

1853. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह यादव:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में दालों का आयात किया जाता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्रतिवर्ष कितनी मात्रा में दालों का आयात किया गया और उस पर कितनी राशि खर्च की गई; और

(ग) दालों का आयात कम करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये गए है?

खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सत्यपाल सिंह यादव): (क) जी, हां।